



Attorney's Docket No.: 06501-030001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hiroaki Yamamoto

Art Unit : 1652

Serial No. : 09/305,390

Examiner : R. Hutson

Filed : May 5, 1999

Title : METHOD FOR PRODUCING OPTICALLY ACTIVE 4-HALO-3-HYDROXYBUTYRIC  
ACID ESTER

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed November 7, 2000, please consider the following  
amendments and remarks.

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 24-27.

Replace the claims as follows.

7. (Amended) A method for producing (S)-4-halo-3-hydroxybutyric acid ester, the  
method comprising asymmetrically reducing a 4-halo-acetoacetic acid ester or its derivative with  
a purified acetoacetyl-CoA reductase that can participate in a poly- $\beta$ -hydroxy fatty acid  
biosynthesis system, the purified acetoacetyl-CoA reductase comprising the amino acid sequence  
of a naturally occurring Type II acetoacetyl-CoA reductase.

10. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein said acetoacetyl-CoA reductase  
comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:9.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

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